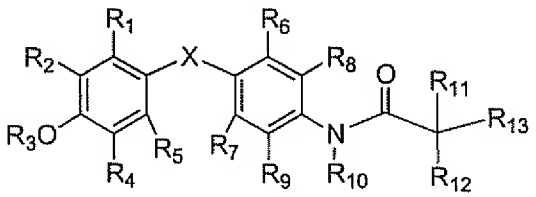
1. Canceled

2. Canceled.

3. (Currently amended) A compound having the following Formula I:



I

~~The compound as defined in Claim 2~~ wherein

R_1 is hydrogen;

R_2 is C_1 to C_6 alkyl or C_3 to C_7 cycloalkyl;

R_3 is hydrogen;

R_4 is halogen or C_1 to C_4 alkyl;

R_5 is hydrogen;

R_6 and R_7 are independently bromo, chloro or methyl;

R_8 is halogen or C_1 to C_4 alkyl;

R_9 is hydrogen or halogen;

R_{10} is hydrogen;

R_{11} is carboxyl;

R_{12} is hydrogen; and

R_{13} is hydrogen.

4. (Original) The compound as defined in Claim 3 wherein R_2 is isopropyl.

5. (Currently amended) The compound as defined in Claim ~~2~~ 3 wherein

R_1 is hydrogen;

R_2 is isopropyl;

R_3 is hydrogen;

R_4 is C_1 to C_4 alkyl;

R_5 is hydrogen;

R_6 and R_7 are independently bromo, chloro or methyl;

R_8 is halogen or methyl;

R_9 is hydrogen or chloro;

R_{10} is hydrogen;

R_{11} is carboxyl;

R_{12} is hydrogen; and

R_{13} is hydrogen.

6. (Currently amended) The compound as defined in Claim ~~2~~ 3 wherein

R_1 is hydrogen;

R_2 is isopropyl;

R_3 is hydrogen;

R_4 is methyl;

R_5 is hydrogen;

R_6 and R_7 are independently bromo or chloro;

R_8 is chloro or methyl;

R_9 is hydrogen;

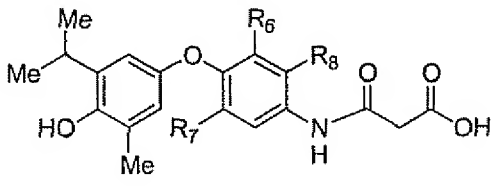
R_{10} is hydrogen;

R_{11} is carboxyl;

R_{12} is hydrogen; and

R_{13} is hydrogen.

7. (Currently amended) The compound as defined in Claim ~~1~~ 3 having the structure



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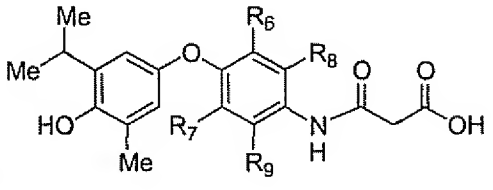
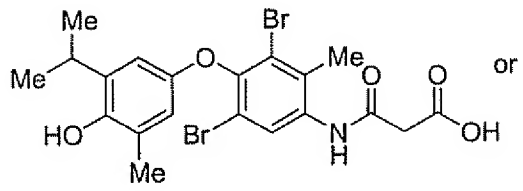


or an alkyl ester thereof.

8. (Currently amended) The compound as defined in Claim ~~1~~ 3 having the structure



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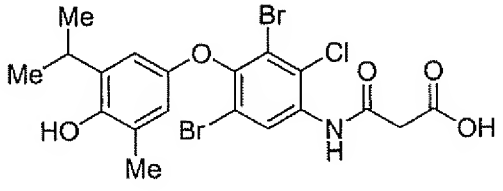

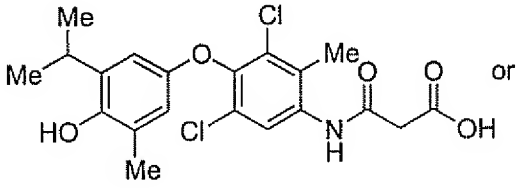

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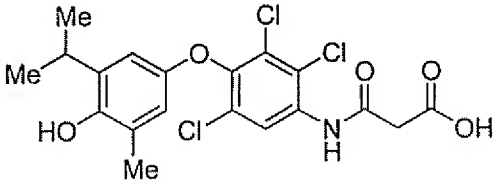

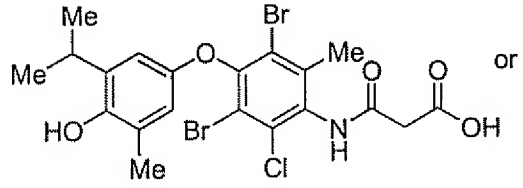

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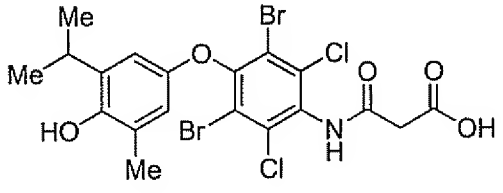

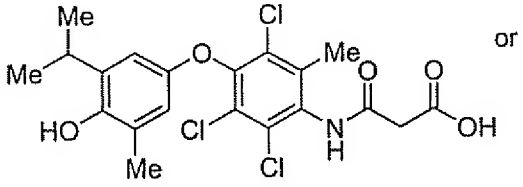

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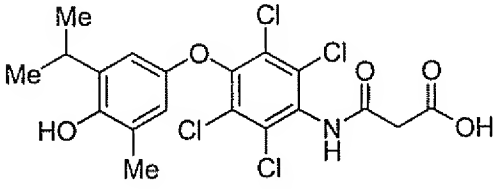

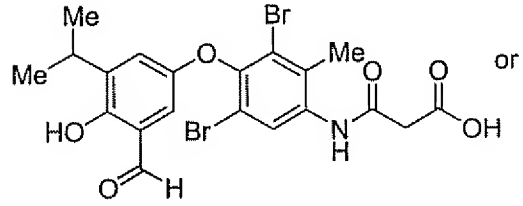

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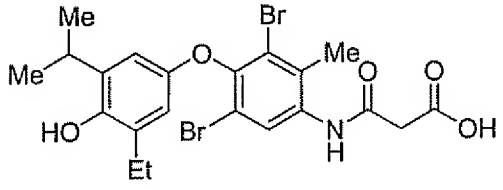

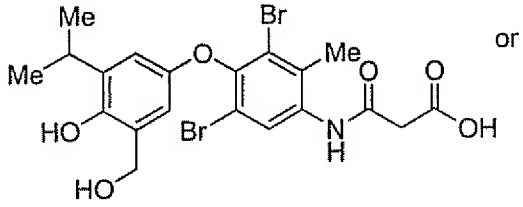

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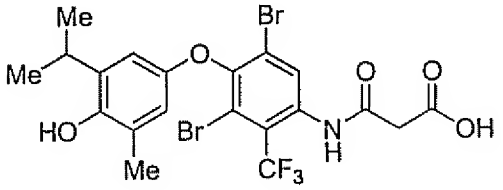
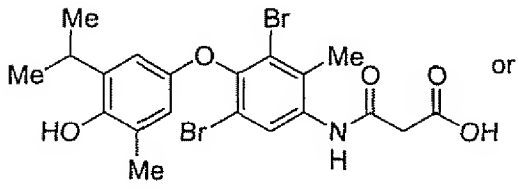


or an alkyl ester thereof.

9. (Currently amended) The compound as defined in Claim ~~1~~ 3 having the structure



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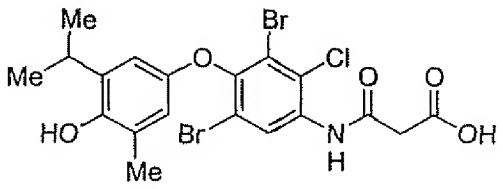

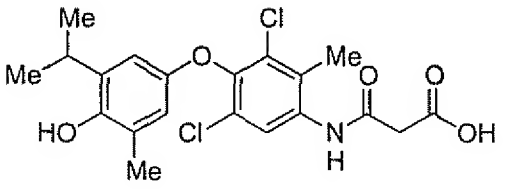

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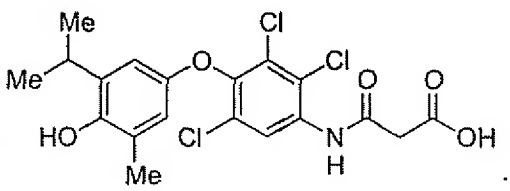
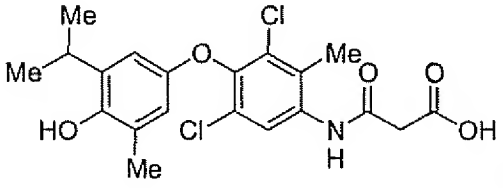


10. (Currently amended) The compound as defined in Claim ~~1~~ 3 having the structure



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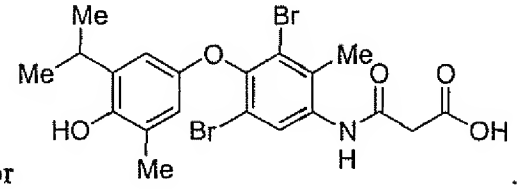

11. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as defined in claim ~~1~~ 3 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.

12. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 11 further comprising at least one additional therapeutic agent selected from other compounds of formula I, anti-diabetic agents, anti-osteoporosis agents, anti-obesity agents, growth promoting agents, anti-inflammatory agents, anti-anxiety agents, anti-depressants, anti-hypertensive agents, cardiac glycosides, cholesterol/lipid lowering agents, appetite supressants, bone resorption inhibitors, thyroid mimetics, anabolic agents, anti-tumor agents and retinoids.

13. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 wherein said additional therapeutic agent is an antidiabetic agent selected from a biguanide, a glucosidase inhibitor, a meglitinide, a sulfonylurea, a thiazolidinedione, a PPAR-alpha agonist, a PPAR-gamma agonist, a PPAR alpha/gamma dual agonist, an SGLT2 inhibitor, a glycogen phosphorylase inhibitor, an aP2 inhibitor, a glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1), a dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitor and insulin.

14. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 wherein said additional therapeutic agent is an antidiabetic agent selected from metformin, glyburide, glimepiride, glipyride, glipizide, chlorpropamide, gliclazide, acarbose, miglitol, troglitazone, pioglitazone, englitazone, darglitazone, rosiglitazone and insulin.

15. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 wherein said additional therapeutic agent is an anti-obesity agent selected from an aP2 inhibitor, a PPAR gamma antagonist, a PPAR delta agonist, a beta 3 adrenergic agonist, a lipase inhibitor, a serotonin reuptake inhibitor, a cannabinoid-1 receptor antagonist and an anorectic agent.

16. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 wherein said additional therapeutic agent is a hypolipidemic agent selected from thiazolidinedione, an MTP inhibitor, a squalene synthetase inhibitor, an HMG CoA reductase inhibitor, a fibric acid derivative, an ACAT inhibitor, a cholesterol absorption inhibitor, an ileal Na^+/bile cotransporter inhibitor, a bile acid sequestrant and a nicotinic acid or a derivative thereof.

17. (Currently amended) A method for preventing, inhibiting or treating a disease associated with metabolic dysfunction, or which is dependent on the expression of a T_3 regulated gene, which comprises administering to a mammalian patient in need of treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in claim ~~1~~ 3.

18. (Currently amended) A method for treating or delaying the progression or onset of obesity, hypercholesterolemia, atherosclerosis, depression, osteoporosis, hypothyroidism, subclinical hyperthyroidism, non-toxic goiter, reduced bone mass, density or growth, eating disorders, reduced cognitive function, thyroid cancer, glaucoma, cardiac arrhythmia, congestive heart failure or a skin disorder or disease, which comprises administering to mammalian patient in need of treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in claim 3 ~~1~~.

19. (Original) The method according to claim 18 wherein the skin disorder or disease is dermal atrophy, post surgical bruising caused by laser resurfacing, keloids, stria, cellulite, roughened skin, actinic skin damage, lichen planus, ichtyosis, acne, psoriasis, Dernier's disease, eczema, atopic dermatitis, chloracne, pityriasis or skin scarring.

20. (Original) The method according to claim 18 further comprising administering, concurrently or sequentially, a therapeutically effective amount of at least one additional therapeutic agent selected from other compounds of formula I, anti-diabetic agents, anti-osteoporosis agents, anti-obesity agents, growth promoting agents, anti-inflammatory agents, anti-anxiety agents, anti-depressants, anti-hypertensive agents, cardiac glycosides, cholesterol/lipid lowering agents, appetite supressants, bone resorption inhibitors, thyroid mimetics, anabolic agents, anti-tumor agents and retinoids.

21. (Currently amended) A method of treating or delaying the progression or onset of a skin disorder or disease which comprises administering to a mammalian patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in claim 3 ~~1~~ in combination with a retinoid or a vitamin D analog.

22. (Currently amended) A method for treating or delaying the progression or onset of obesity which comprises administering to mammalian patient in need of treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in Claim 3 ~~1~~.

23. (Original) A method according to claim 22 further comprising administering, concurrently or sequentially, a therapeutically effective amount of at least one additional therapeutic agent selected from an anti-obesity agent or an appetite suppressant.

24. (Original) A method according to claim 23 wherein said anti-obesity agent is selected from aP2 inhibitors, PPAR gamma antagonists, PPAR delta agonists, beta 3 adrenergic agonists, lipase inhibitors, serotonin (and dopamine) reuptake inhibitors, cannabinoid-1 receptor antagonists, other thyroid receptor agents and anorectic agents.

25. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition which functions as a selective agonist of the thyroid hormone receptor comprising a compound as defined in claim 3 ~~1~~.